



PIONEER OF NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE

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The National Reconnaissance Pioneer Program recognizes and honors individuals who have made significant and lasting contributions to national reconnaissance — pioneering contributions that were innovative and have changed the direction and scope of the discipline and its practice. It is the highest honor in the field of national reconnaissance.

This year, the Director of National Reconnaissance (DNRO), Betty Sapp, selected Dr. Robert P. O'Donnell, who pioneered the development of complex technical capabilities that enabled breakthroughs in the NRO's ability to collect intelligence.

In a 1955 issue of Life magazine there is a reported Albert Einstein quote, "The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing." Dr. O'Donnell and those Pioneers inducted in previous classes have demonstrated how questioning the ways of the past with a focus on the future have resulted in developing innovative approaches to overcome the challenges of the present. As a result, Dr. O'Donnell and the Pioneers of National Reconnaissance have employed imaginative techniques and processes to better enable intelligence collection.

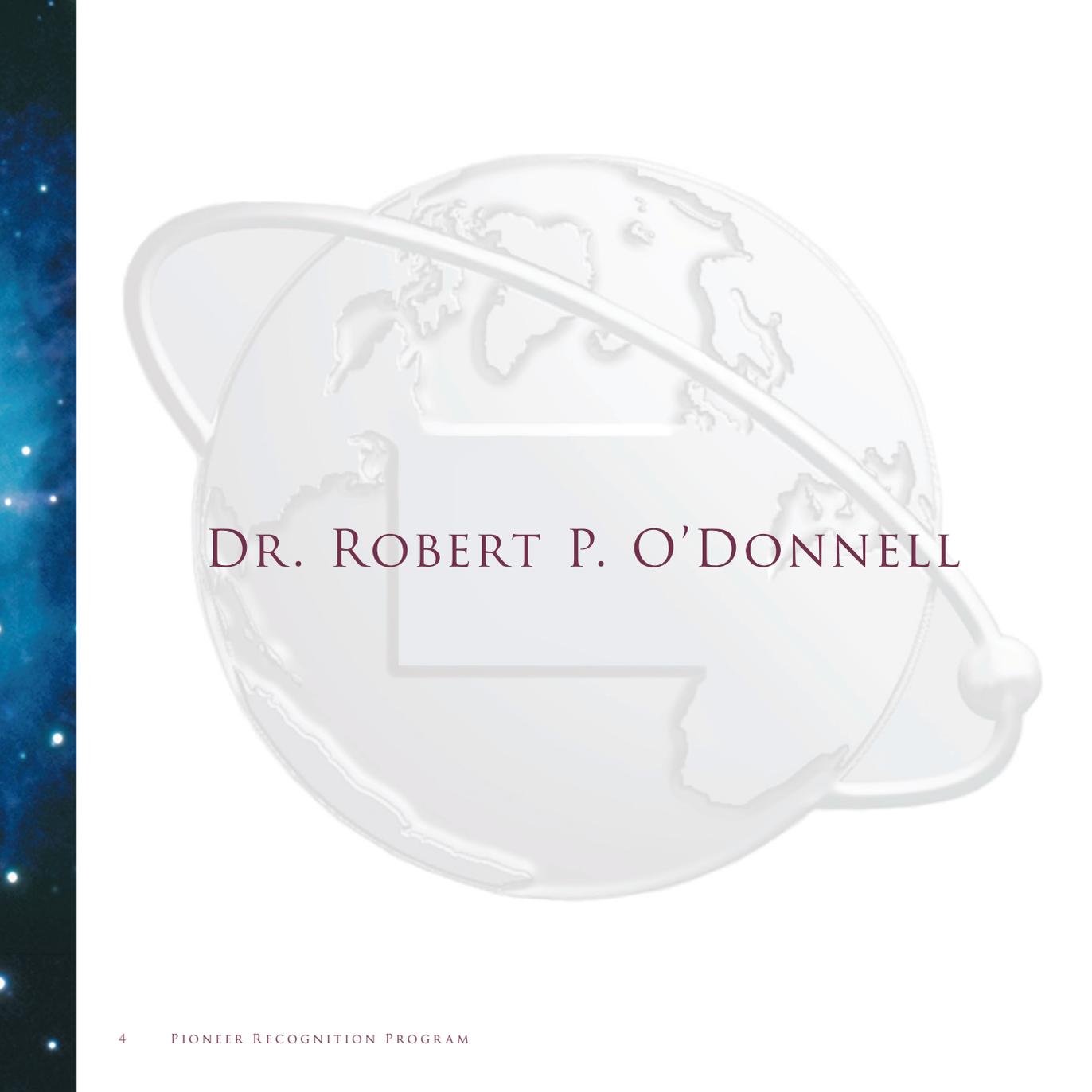
This booklet summarizes the specific contributions of Pioneer O'Donnell. In Pioneer Hall you will find Dr. O'Donnell's medallion that serves as a permanent acknowledgement of his enduring contributions to the discipline of national reconnaissance. His medallion joins the other medallions that commemorate those Pioneers we recognized in previous years. As you view Pioneer Hall, I encourage you to read about Dr. O'Donnell and the other Pioneers to learn how their contributions have made a lasting impact on the NRO and national security.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert A. McDonald". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Robert A. McDonald, PhD.
Director, Center for the Study of National Reconnaissance

NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE PIONEER
2012

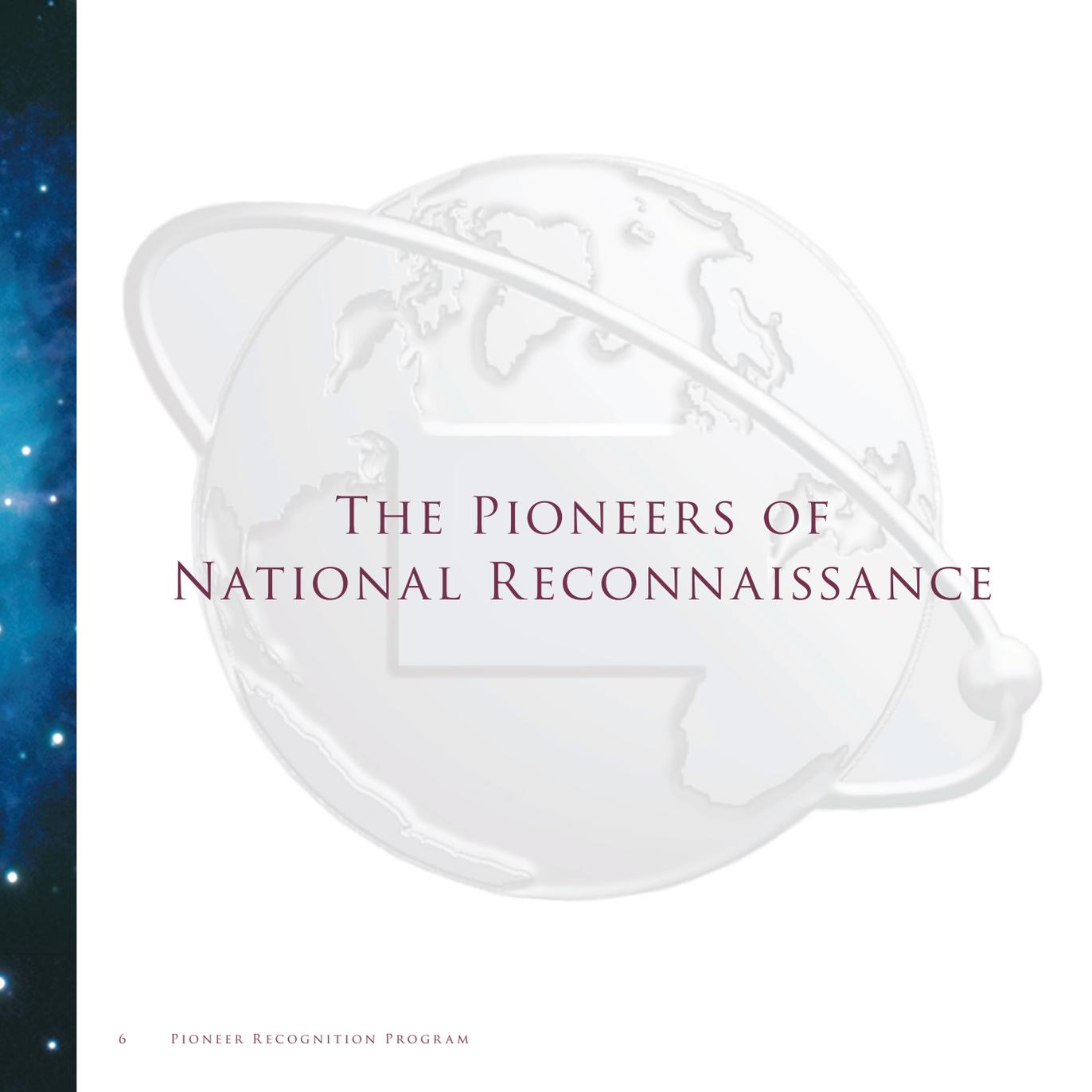


A stylized, light gray globe is centered on the page, showing the outlines of continents. A white satellite orbit with a spherical antenna is depicted around the globe. The background on the left side of the page is a vertical strip of a starry, blue space scene. The text "DR. ROBERT P. O'DONNELL" is centered over the globe in a dark red, serif font.

DR. ROBERT P. O'DONNELL

Dr. Robert P. O'Donnell pioneered the development of unique, complex precision structures and mechanisms that enabled dramatic breakthroughs in the ability to collect critically important signals and imagery intelligence from space. He developed analysis and simulation techniques which made possible the precision pointing and flexible structure deployment and control of a new generation of collection satellites.

Career in National Reconnaissance: 1972 - Present



THE PIONEERS OF
NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE

2011

Thomas A. Brackey
Col Joseph J. Eash III, USAF (Ret)
Michael N. Parker, Ph.D.
John W. Shipley, Ph.D.
Richard C. Van Wagoner

2010

Robert H. Dumais
Brig Gen Jack A. Gibbs, USAF (Ret)
Col Richard J. Randazzo, USAF (Ret)

2009

James P. Campbell, Ph.D.
Lacy G. Cook
Michael F. Maguire

2008

Raymond E. Anderson, Col, USAF (Ret)
Howard G. Brotherton
Hilliard W. Paige, Sr.

2007

Paul G. Kaminski
Sun Yet Wong

2006

Ingard M. Clausen
Fred V. Hellrich
David L. Klinger, Ph.D.
Jane A. Wood

2005

Robert E. Eisenhower
Roger C. Marsh
Edward A. Miller, Ph.D.
Wayne L. Proffitt

2004

M. Sam Araki
Harvey Cohen, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)
Robert G. Kaemmerer
James W. McAnally

2003

Carl L. Ferdensi, Jr.
David Raspet, Col, USAF (Ret)
James W. Stoner, Ph.D.
Charles C. Tevis

2002

Vance D. Coffman, Ph.D.
Lee M. Hammarstrom
Robert L. Paulson, Col, USAF (Ret)

2001

Donald L. Cromer, Lt Gen, USAF (Ret)
A.J. (Tony) Iorillo
Vincent S. Rose
John Walton

2000

James G. Baker, Ph.D.
C. Lee Battle, Jr., Col, USAF (Ret)
John T. Bennett
John W. Browning, Col USAF (Ret)
Jon H. Bryson, Col, USAF (Ret)
A. Roy Burks
Frank S. Buzard, Col, USAF (Ret)
Cornelius W. "Connie" Chambers
John O. Copley, Col, USAF (Ret)
Robert H. Crotser
John J. Crowley
James C. de Broekert

Gary S. Geyer, Col, USAF (Ret)
Thomas O. Haig, Col, USAF (Ret)
Frederick H. Kaufman
Robert J. Kohler
Ellis E. Lapin
Lloyd K. Lauderdale, Ph.D.

Richard S. Leghorn, Col, USAF (Ret)
Walter J. Levison
Howard O. Lorenzen
Frank J. Madden
James T. Mannen, Col, USAF (Ret)
Paul W. Mayhew, Ph.D.

Reid D. Mayo
James E. Morgan
Mark N. Morton
Alden V. Munson, Jr.

Charles L. Murphy, Col, USAF (Ret)
Frederic C.E. "Fritz" Oder, Col, USAF (Ret)
John Parangosky
Julius P. "Val" Peline, Ph.D.
Robert M. Powell
Edward H. Reese

Osmond J. "Ozzie" Ritland,
Major General, USAF (Ret)

Lee W. Roberts, Col, USAF (Ret)
Charles R. "Charlie" Roth
Robert W. "Rob" Roy, Col, USAF (Ret)
Charles P. Spoelhof
Forrest H. Stieg
Marvin S. Stone, Ph.D.
Don F. Tang
Albert D. "Bud" Wheelon, Ph.D.
Peter G. Wilhelm
Roy H. Worthington, Col, USAF (Ret)
Robert W. Yundt, Col, USAF (Ret)

*Pioneer Hall
National Reconnaissance Office
Chantilly, Virginia*



